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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 JO-ANN STORES, LLC,
11 Plaintiff,
12 v.
13 SOUND PROPERTIES, LLC,
14 Defendant.

CASE NO. C19-1831JLR

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
REGARDING DIVERSITY
JURISDICTION

15 Before the court is Plaintiff Jo-Ann Stores, LLC's ("Jo-Ann") complaint. (Compl.
16 (Dkt. # 1).) Having reviewed the complaint, the court finds that Jo-Ann has failed to
17 allege an adequate basis for subject matter jurisdiction. The court therefore orders Jo-
18 Ann, within seven (7) days of the date of this order, to serve and file a submission that
19 includes the following information:

20 Jo-Ann asserts that the court's subject matter jurisdiction is based on diversity of
21 citizenship under 28 U.S.C. § 1332. (Compl. ¶ 3.) For purposes of assessing diversity
22 jurisdiction, the court must consider the domicile of all members of a limited liability

1 company. *Johnson v. Columbia Props. Anchorage, LP*, 437 F.3d 894, 899 (9th Cir.
2 2006); *see also* Local Rules W.D. Wash. LCR 8(a) (“If plaintiff is asserting that this court
3 has jurisdiction based on diversity, the compliant must identify the citizenship of the
4 parties, and, if any of the parties is a limited liability corporation (LLC) . . . identify the
5 citizenship of the . . . members of those entities to establish the court’s jurisdiction.”).
6 Jo-Ann alleges that it is an Ohio limited liability company with its principal place of
7 business in Hudson, Ohio. (Compl. ¶ 1.) Yet, Jo-Ann fails to allege the citizenship of its
8 members. (*See generally id.*) Further, Jo-Ann alleges that Defendant Sound Properties,
9 LLC (“Sound Properties”), is a Washington limited liability company with its principal
10 places of business in Snoqualmie, Washington (*id.* ¶ 2), but fails to allege the citizenship
11 of any of its members (*see generally id.*). Absent such allegations, the court cannot
12 determine if Jo-Ann has properly invoked this court’s subject matter jurisdiction based on
13 the parties’ diversity of citizenship.¹

14 Accordingly, the court ORDERS Jo-Ann to show cause why this case should not
15 be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. If Jo-Ann fails to provide the court
16 with the information described above within seven (7) days of the date of this order, the
17 case will be dismissed without prejudice. Any Defendant who appears in this proceeding
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19 ¹ The court notes that if any member of Jo-Ann or Sound Properties is itself a limited
20 liability company, Jo-Ann must provide information about the citizenship of the members of that
21 limited liability company as well, which is determined in the same manner described above—
22 namely, by establishing the citizenship of each member. *See Johnson*, 437 F.3d at 899
(examining the citizenship of a limited partnership whose partners included limited liability
companies by looking to the citizenship of the members of those limited liability companies).
This process continues until every layer of limited liability company membership has been
reduced to the citizenship of its individual members.

1 prior to the foregoing deadline, may, but is not required to, respond to the court's order to
2 show cause within the same timeframe.

3 Dated this 22nd day of November, 2019.

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6 JAMES L. ROBART
7 United States District Judge
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